SC Annual School Report Card Summary

2008

A. R. Rucker Middle
Lancaster County
Grades: 6-8   **Enrollment:** 512
Principal: Phillip Mickles
Superintendent: Richard E. Moore
Board Chair: Charlene McGriff

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD/SILVER AWARD	AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
2008	Below Average	Below Average	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2007	Below Average	At-Risk	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2006	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	Not Met	N/A

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	0	13	32	4

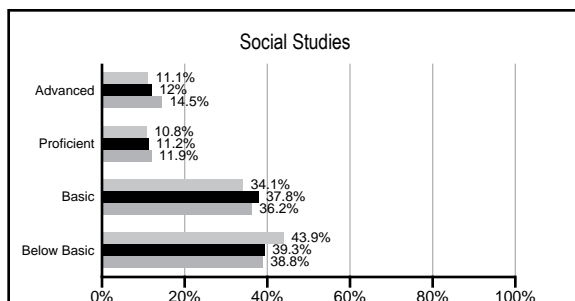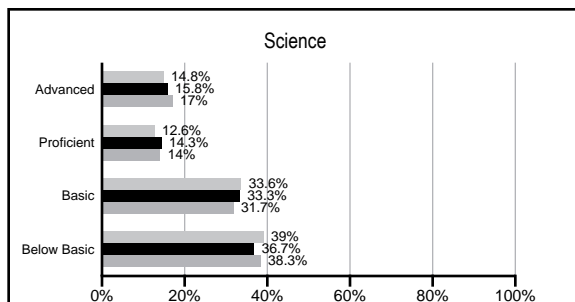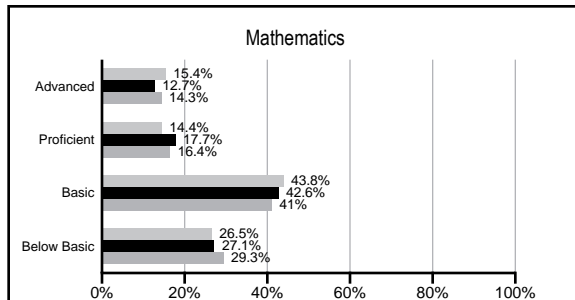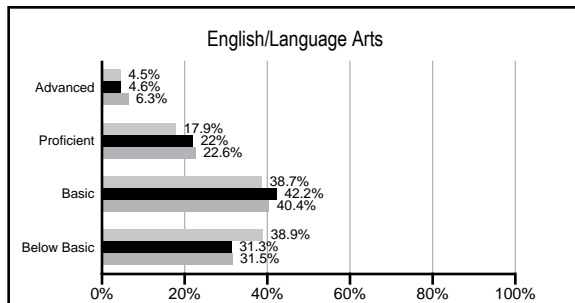** Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/02/2009. Schools with Students like Ours are Middle Schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.*

PACT PERFORMANCE

Legend: Our School | Middle Schools with Students Like Ours | Middle schools statewide

English/Language Arts

	Our School	Students Like Ours	Statewide
Advanced	4.5%	4.6%	6.3%
Proficient	17.9%	22%	22.6%
Basic	38.7%	42.2%	40.4%
Below Basic	38.9%	31.3%	31.5%

Mathematics

	Our School	Students Like Ours	Statewide
Advanced	15.4%	12.7%	14.3%
Proficient	14.4%	17.7%	16.4%
Basic	43.8%	42.6%	41%
Below Basic	26.5%	27.1%	29.3%

Science

	Our School	Students Like Ours	Statewide
Advanced	14.8%	15.8%	17%
Proficient	12.6%	14.3%	14%
Basic	33.6%	33.3%	31.7%
Below Basic	39%	36.7%	38.3%

Social Studies

	Our School	Students Like Ours	Statewide
Advanced	11.1%	12%	14.5%
Proficient	10.8%	11.2%	11.9%
Basic	34.1%	37.8%	36.2%
Below Basic	43.9%	39.3%	38.8%

NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

READING – GRADE 8 (2007)

	% Below Basic	% Basic, Proficient, and Advanced		
South Carolina	31	44	23	2
Nation	27	43	27	2

Below Basic | Basic | Proficient | Advanced

MATH – GRADE 8 (2007)

	% Below Basic	% Basic, Proficient, and Advanced		
South Carolina	29	39	24	7
Nation	30	39	24	7

Below Basic | Basic | Proficient | Advanced

SCIENCE – GRADE 8 (2005)

	% Below Basic	% Basic, Proficient, and Advanced		
South Carolina	46	31	21	2
Nation	43	30	24	3

Below Basic | Basic | Proficient | Advanced

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2008

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	95.7%	97.2%
English 1	0%	95.5%
Physical Science	0%	76.9%
All Subjects	95.7%	96.1%

SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:
By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Goal: TBD

Abbreviations Key
N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample **TBD** To be determined
NI Newly Identified **CSI** Continuing School Improvement **CA** Corrective Action **RP** Plan to Restructure **R** Restructure **DELAY** School Improvement Status **HOLD** School Improvement Status

A. R. Rucker Middle [Lancaster County]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=512)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	18.1%	Down from 25.6%	19.0%	19.4%
Retention rate	0.6%	No Change	1.6%	1.8%
Attendance rate	94.8%	Down from 94.9%	95.8%	95.8%
Eligible for gifted and talented	12.7%	Down from 14.9%	16.8%	15.3%
With disabilities other than speech	15.6%	Up from 11.8%	14.3%	12.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.8%	Up from 0.0%	0.6%	0.7%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=42)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.0%	Down from 59.5%	53.3%	55.0%
Continuing contract teachers	61.9%	Down from 71.4%	73.7%	70.6%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	6.1%	Down from 7.9%	5.4%	5.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	81.6%	Down from 84.8%	84.4%	83.4%
Teacher attendance rate	94.1%	Down from 94.2%	94.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	$43,955	Down 2.1%	$44,274	$44,706
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	Down from 3.1%	2.6%	2.9%
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 2.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.5 to 1	Up from 9.1 to 1	19.4 to 1	20.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.7%	Up from 86.6%	89.1%	89.3%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Up from Fair	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil*	$7,572	Up 8.8%	$6,988	$7,097
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	70.6%	Down from 74.2%	64.8%	64.4%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	66.1%	Down from 69.5%	60.3%	59.4%
% of AYP objectives met	61.9%		68.0%	69.0%

* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	34	145	75
Percent satisfied with learning environment	97.1%	77.2%	89.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	94.1%	83.8%	89.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	79.4%	86.1%	83.8%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Throughout the 2007-2008 school year, A.R. Rucker focused on continued school improvement. A highlight of the year was receiving the state Red Carpet award for the second consecutive time. Also, our continued implementation of the International Baccalaureate-Middle Years Programme helped us stay focused on student achievement.

As a school, we have worked to improve and offer more staff development for our teachers. We will start incorporating single-gender classes at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year. Our instructional leadership team continues to focus on making instructional decisions that are aligned with the school's beliefs, vision, and mission. By increasing efforts to help our students develop more personal and social responsibility, we believe our students will also achieve more academically.

In addition, we continue to improve on three identified areas: 1) Learning-to-Learn Skills – we need to help students identify how they learn best; 2) Personal and Social Responsibility – we need to help our students develop more responsibility for their actions; and 3) Leadership for School Improvement – we need an administration team that works with the instructional leadership team to implement programs that improve student achievement.

Although there is still plenty of room for improvement and much work remains to be done, the positive trends in achievement for our students give us greater confidence and serve as a motivating factor to stay the course in our commitment to continuous improvement.

Phillip Mickles, Principal 2007-2008
Shewanda Lathan, School Improvement Council Chair

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